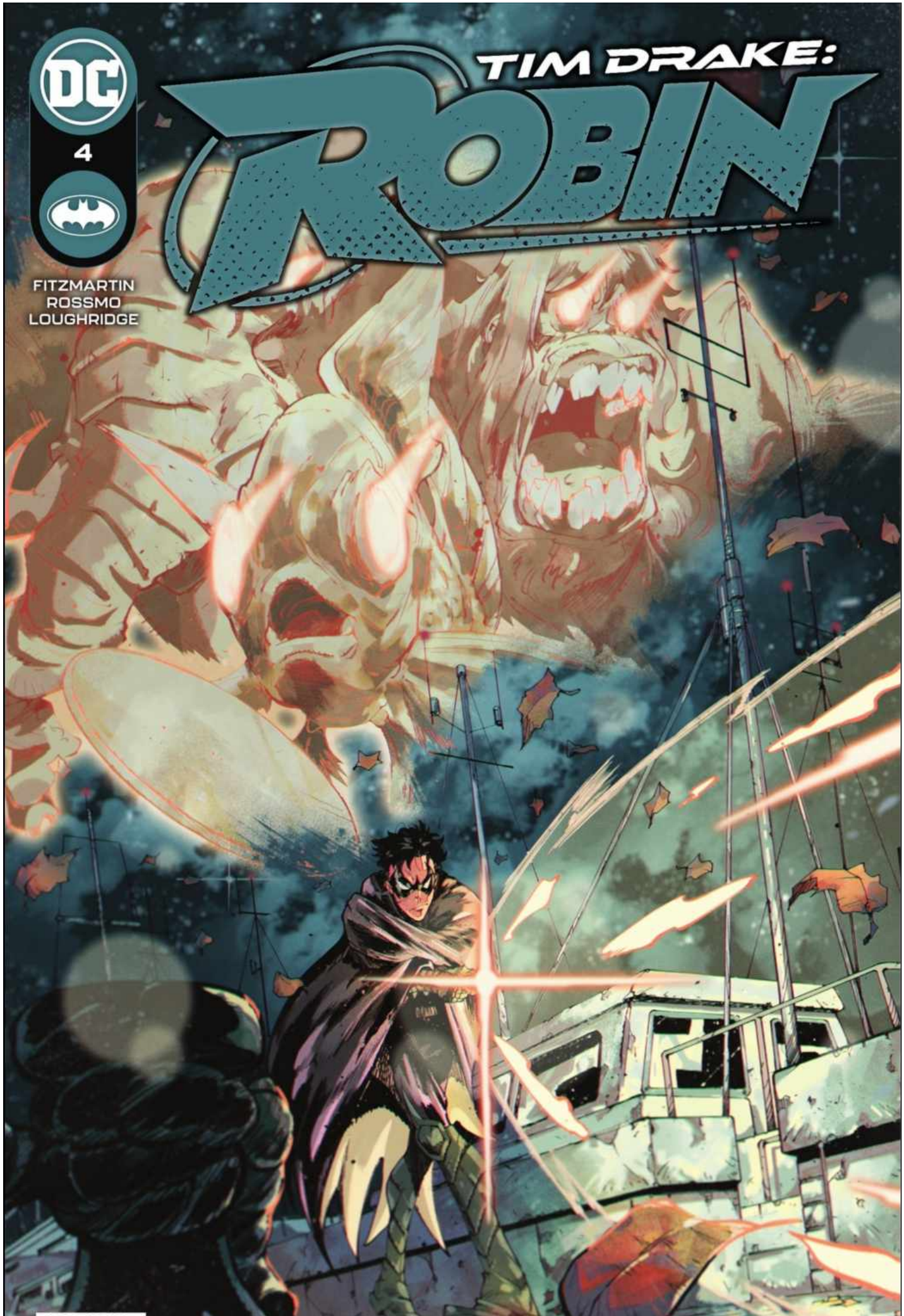
DC
4
TIM DRAKE:
ROBIN
FITZMARTIN
ROSSMO
LOUGHRIDGE

WHO IS BRUCE WAYNE?

BATMAN

#131

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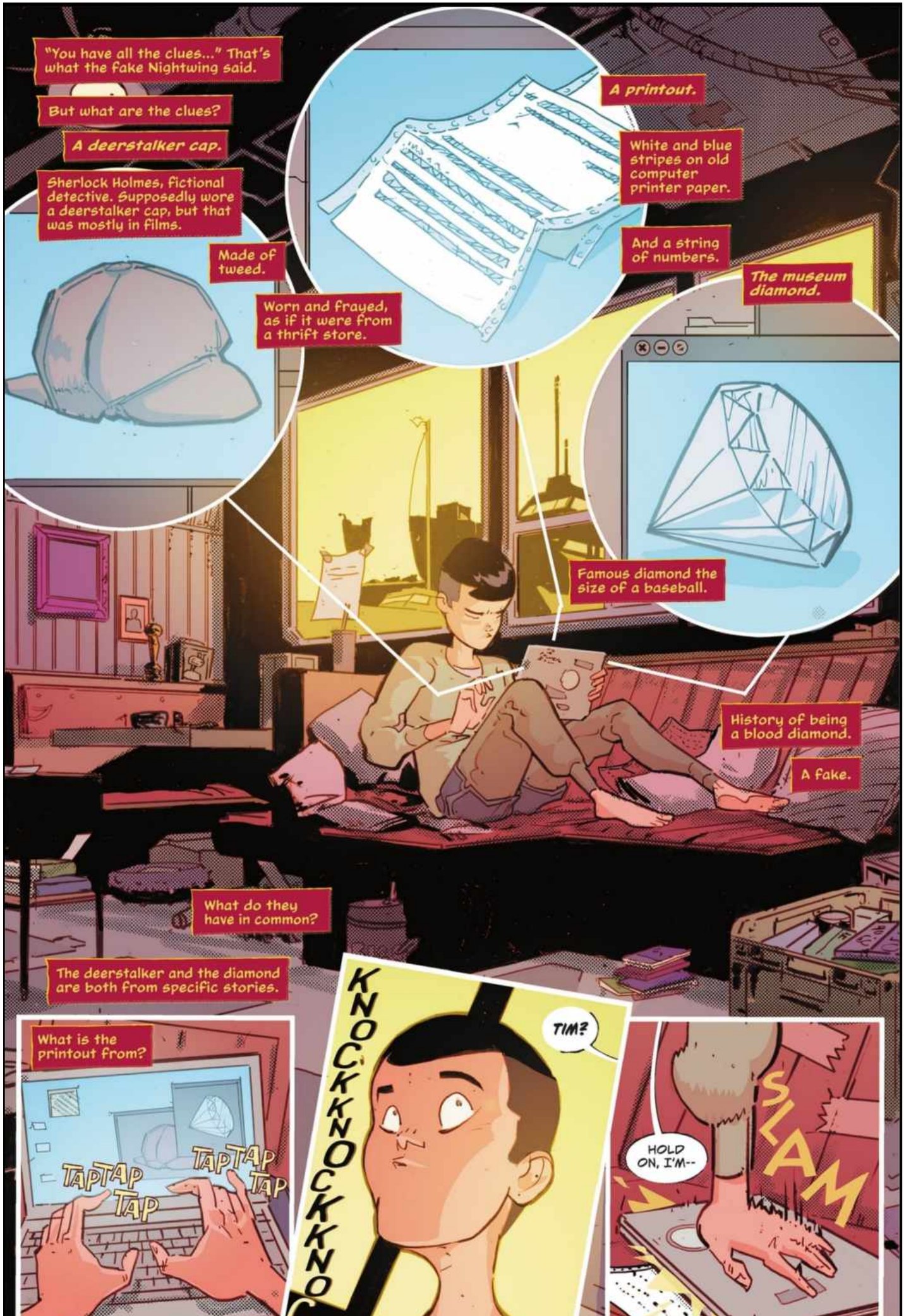
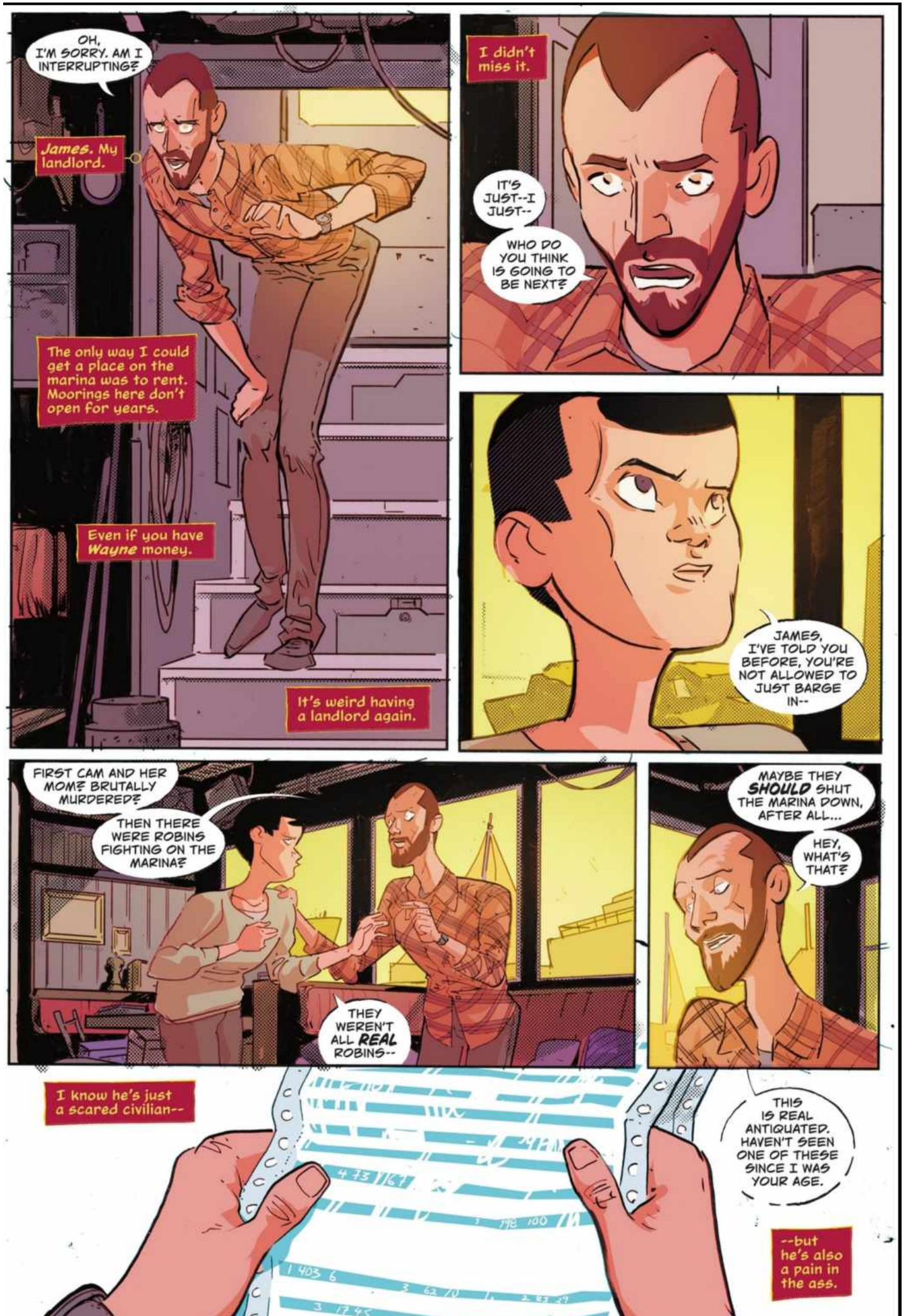
Written by
CHIP ZDARSKY

Art by
MIKE HAWTHORNE

Cover by

"The Bat-Man of Gotham"


"You have all the clues..." That's what the fake Nightwing said.
But what are the clues?
A deerstalker cap.
Sherlock Holmes, fictional detective. Supposedly wore a deerstalker cap, but that was mostly in films.
Made of tweed.
Worn and frayed, as if it were from a thrift store.
A printout.
White and blue stripes on old computer printer paper.
And a string of numbers.
The museum diamond.
Famous diamond the size of a baseball.
History of being a blood diamond.
A fake.
What do they have in common?
The deerstalker and the diamond are both from specific stories.
What is the printout from?
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP
KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK
TIM?
HOLD ON, I'M--
SLAM


OH, I'M SORRY. AM I INTERRUPTING?
James. My landlord.
The only way I could get a place on the marina was to rent. Moorings here don't open for years.
Even if you have Wayne money.
It's weird having a landlord again.
I didn't miss it.
IT'S JUST--I JUST--
WHO DO YOU THINK IS GOING TO BE NEXT?
JAMES, I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE, YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO JUST BARGE IN--
FIRST CAM AND HER MOM? BRUTALLY MURDERED?
THEN THERE WERE ROBINS FIGHTING ON THE MARINA?
THEY WEREN'T ALL REAL ROBINS--
MAYBE THEY SHOULD SHUT THE MARINA DOWN, AFTER ALL...
HEY, WHAT'S THAT?
I know he's just a scared civilian--
THIS IS REAL ANTIQUATED. HAVEN'T SEEN ONE OF THESE SINCE I WAS YOUR AGE.
--but he's also a pain in the ass.

LOOKS LIKE MORSE CODE.
IT'S NOT MORSE CODE. THAT'S DOTS AND DASHES.
CAN I HAVE THAT BACK--
I JUST...I WISH THERE WERE ANSWERS.
THE MARINA IS MY HOME. AND HOME TO SO MANY.
IF SOMEONE DOESN'T SOLVE THIS, WE'RE SUNK.
WHO KNOWS WHAT THE CIPHER MIGHT BE?
Cipher?
CAN'T LOSE HOPE YET, JAMES. LET ME HAVE THAT BACK--
BZZT
Bernard
Highdive
IT'S BERNARD. JAMES, I'VE GOT TO GET GOING...
...BUT I PROMISE, I'LL FIGURE THIS OUT!
YOU'RE MY FAVORITE TENANT, TIM!

A cipher. Could that be what this is?
TIM!
Six lines of numbers. Three numbers in each line.
TIM?
SUPERBOY'S BIGGEST FAN!
4 73 67
1 198 100
1 403 6
3 62 10
2 83 29
3 17 45
I don't think the different numbers are corresponding to letters--the numbers are too high.
BERNARD?
THERE'S MY BOY WONDER.
DID YOU GET MY MESSAGE?
YOU LET A SUPERHERO ONTO MY BOAT?
I FIGURED YOU WOULDN'T MIND. YOU BOTH HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON...
YOU BOTH KEEP SAVING ME.
THAT'S IT! I'VE HAD IT!

I KNEW I SHOULDN'TA HIRED ONE A' YA MARINA SCUM BARRELS.
BOSS, I'M SORRY--
SEEMS COUNCILMAN RATHBONE WAS RIGHT. YOU'RE ALL DEGENERATES.
THIS IS A FAMILY ESTABLISHMENT.
Rathbone Construction
WHAT'S GOING ON, LOUIE?
HEY, MIKE! LOOKS LIKE PIE'S GETTING FIRED.
THAT'S THE FOURTH ONE OF US FIRED THIS WEEK.
DID YOU HEAR WHAT HE SAID? DEGENERATE? I'M GONNA MARCH OVER THERE AND--
I WOULDN'T DO THAT.
PIE'S BOSS DIDN'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING UNTIL COUNCILMAN RATHBONE STARTED TO LEAN ON PEOPLE HARD.
NONE OF US CAN GET HIRED NOW.
IF RATHBONE CAN'T CLOSE DOWN THE MARINA, THEN HE'LL MAKE IT SO NO ONE CAN AFFORD TO LIVE HERE.
HE CAN'T DO THAT. WE CAN'T LOSE OUR HOMES. IT WAS HARD ENOUGH MOVING MY BOOKS--
I--I'VE LOST SO MANY HOMES AT THIS POINT.
PRETTY SOON, IT'LL JUST BE ME AND MY BOOKS.
Wait. My books.

They're missing.
Four of my books are missing.
And I didn't even notice.
But I know where they should be.
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP
OPEN UP, TIM!
I GOT YOU SUSTENANCE.
There are too many distractions.
HIGH DIVE
MY HERO.
I'M A PROVIDER.
WANT TO EXPLAIN WHY YOU RAN OFF TO STARE AT YOUR BOOKS?

THERE'S SOMETHING I'M MISSING, BERNARD.
EVERYTHING FEELS JAGGED. THE CIRCUITS AREN'T CONNECTING LIKE THEY SHOULD.
REMEMBER MR. W'S ENGLISH CLASS? YOU'D GET SO FRUSTRATED BECAUSE HE WANTED YOU TO THINK IN THE ABSTRACT.
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN TOO BY THE NUMBERS FOR THAT. BUT YOU REFUSED TO FAIL AT ANYTHING.
SO WHAT DID YOU DO?
I GOT OUTTA MY HEAD.
EXACTLY.
OR IN MY HEAD!
YOU'VE GOT THIS.
I BELIEVE IN YOU.
YOU GOTTA GET OUT OF YOUR HEAD.

So I don't have the missing books.
But I know which books are missing.
I can google the books, find the right pages.
4 73 67
1 198 100
1 403 6
3 62 10
2 83 29
3 17 45
Book one. Candy Crew and the Twisted Candle. Page 198, word 100. Wally. Page 403, word 6. Supe.
Book two. Joyful Johngons in Skyscraper City. Page 83, word 29. Kathy.
Just one word?
Book three. Black Mask magazine. Page 62, word 10. Carol. Page 17, word 45. Donovan.
Book four. The Zombie Project. Page 73, word 67. Horne. That must belong to the other name.
Wally Supe.
Kathy Horne.
Carol Donovan.

I did it. I figured out the cipher.
Now what?
DID YOU DO IT? DID YOU FIGURE OUT WHO THE STALKER IS? — ARE YOU SAFE NOW?
Safe.
Nothing about this mystery is safe.
Three people already died.
Stephanie almost died.
In brutal, gruesome ways.
Whoever this is, they're making a point. They know who I am.
I have to stop them.
EVERYTHING IS SAFE, BERNARD.
WHY DON'T YOU HEAD HOME? I'VE GOT THIS.
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
I can protect everyone
I can't let whoever this is take Bernard,

And to do that?
SHHH
I have to do what every Bat-Family member does when they need help.
VOOM
KRO OOM
rumble rumble rumble
Make a grand entrance.
ROBIN?!
GOOD TO SEE YOU, BATGIRLS.
WHY DON'T YOU USE YOUR COMMS LIKE A NORMAL HUMAN?
I NEED YOUR HELP.
THINGS ARE GETTING TOO DANGEROUS TO BRING IN ANYONE ELSE.

I'M SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORS, ROBIN. THAT'S AWFUL.
AND YOU THINK WHOEVER DID THAT IS THE SAME PERSON WHO TRIED TO KILL ME WITH AN ELEPHANT?
HAPPY TO TAKE THAT SUCKER DOWN. BUT...AREN'T YOU A COMPUTER GENIUS? THIS ISN'T A QUICK SEARCH?
THIS CASE IS...A LITTLE TOO COMPLEX, EVEN FOR ANY OF MY SYSTEMS.
THIS PERSON CAME INTO MY HOME. THEY'RE TARGETING ME. I NEED TO BE CAREFUL.
IT'S NOT SAFE.
With the police against me, I can't ask Detective Williams. I don't want to put Sparrow in danger. And Bernard...
IS EVERYTHING OKAY WITH BERNARD?
I can protect everyone.
THERE ARE TOO MANY PEOPLE DYING.
MAYBE WE CAN SAVE THEM TOGETHER.
BESIDES, YOU TWO ARE THE BEST. THERE ISN'T ANYONE I TRUST MORE.
BATGIRL?
HOW CAN WE HELP?

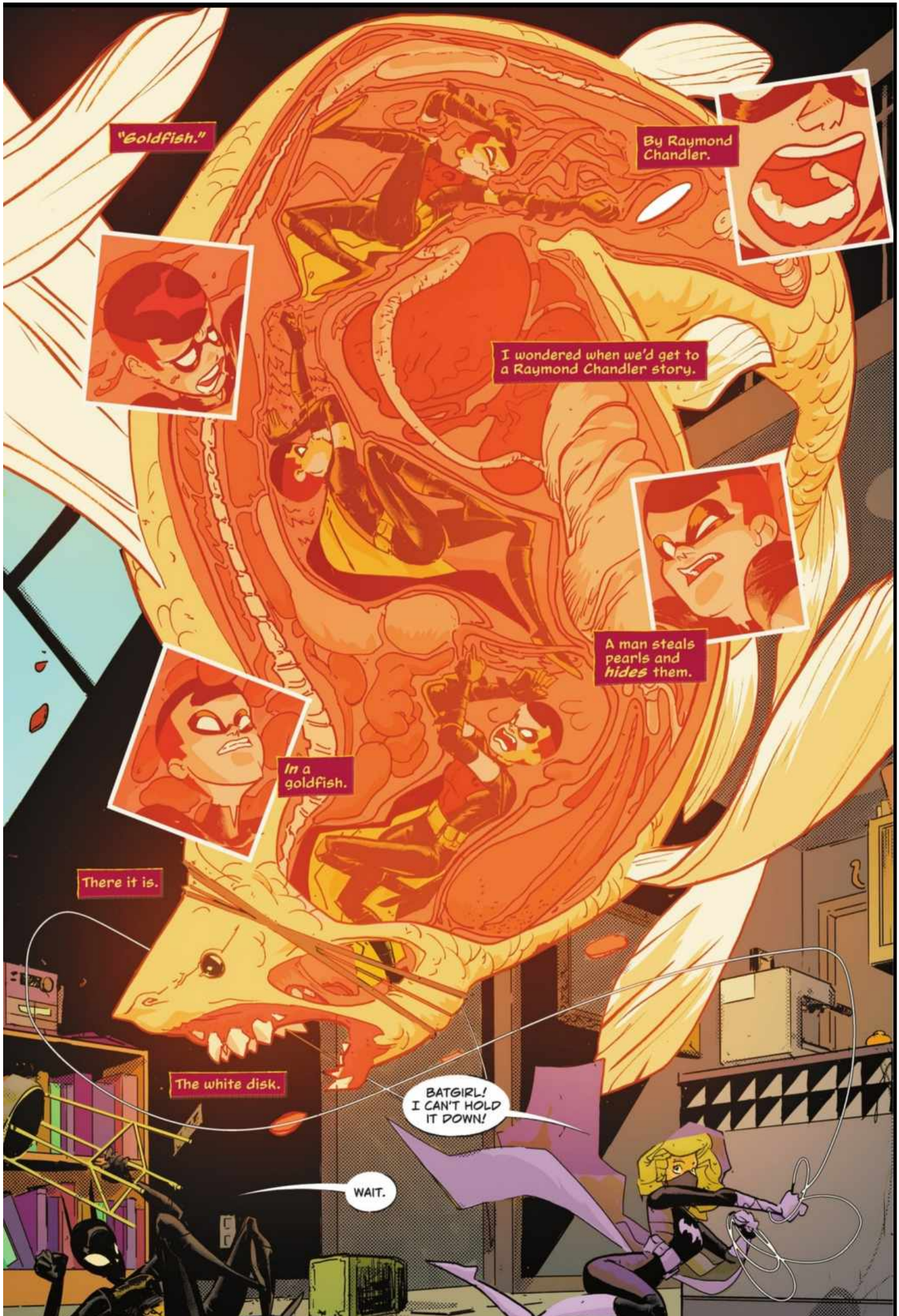
I recognize the names.
I did a quick google search for them and detective novels, but nothing came up.
The names are so generic that I can't narrow down why they are important.
KNOK! KNOK KNOK
I can feel the clock ticking.
Six Carol Donovans in Gotham.
Twelve Kathy Hornes.
Five Wallace Sypes.
Only two names left. A Kathy Horne and a Wallace Sype.
DONOVAN
HORNE
SYPE
BATGIRL. BATGIRL. LET'S HIT THESE LAST TWO TOGETHER. MEET ME AT SYPE'S APARTMENT.

I feel like an idiot.
Maybe this is why Batman embraces his sadness.
Happiness is distracting.
knock
knockknock
BREAK IT DOWN.
YOU THINK--
GOT IT.
WE'RE TOO LATE.

WE'RE SO SORRY, ROBIN.
THERE ARE ANSWERS HERE.
LOOK.
Burn marks around his neck. They look like a necklace. A *pearl* necklace.
I'VE SEEN SO MANY BODIES LIKE THIS THE LAST FEW WEEKS.
AND THEY ALL HAVE CLUES THAT LEAD BACK TO A DETECTIVE STORY.
~~DONOVAN~~
~~HORNE~~
Sype
The names. I know these names. They're from something.
IF ANYONE CAN FIGURE OUT THIS STORY, IT'S YOU. ANY IDEA WHO'S BEHIND IT?
THEY'RE ALL CLUES TO THIS PERSON'S PSYCHE.
IF I CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT THESE MURDERS MEAN, THE DEATHS WON'T BE IN VAIN.
The cipher. It's a puzzle. It's...
Oh my God. It's--
GOLDFISH!

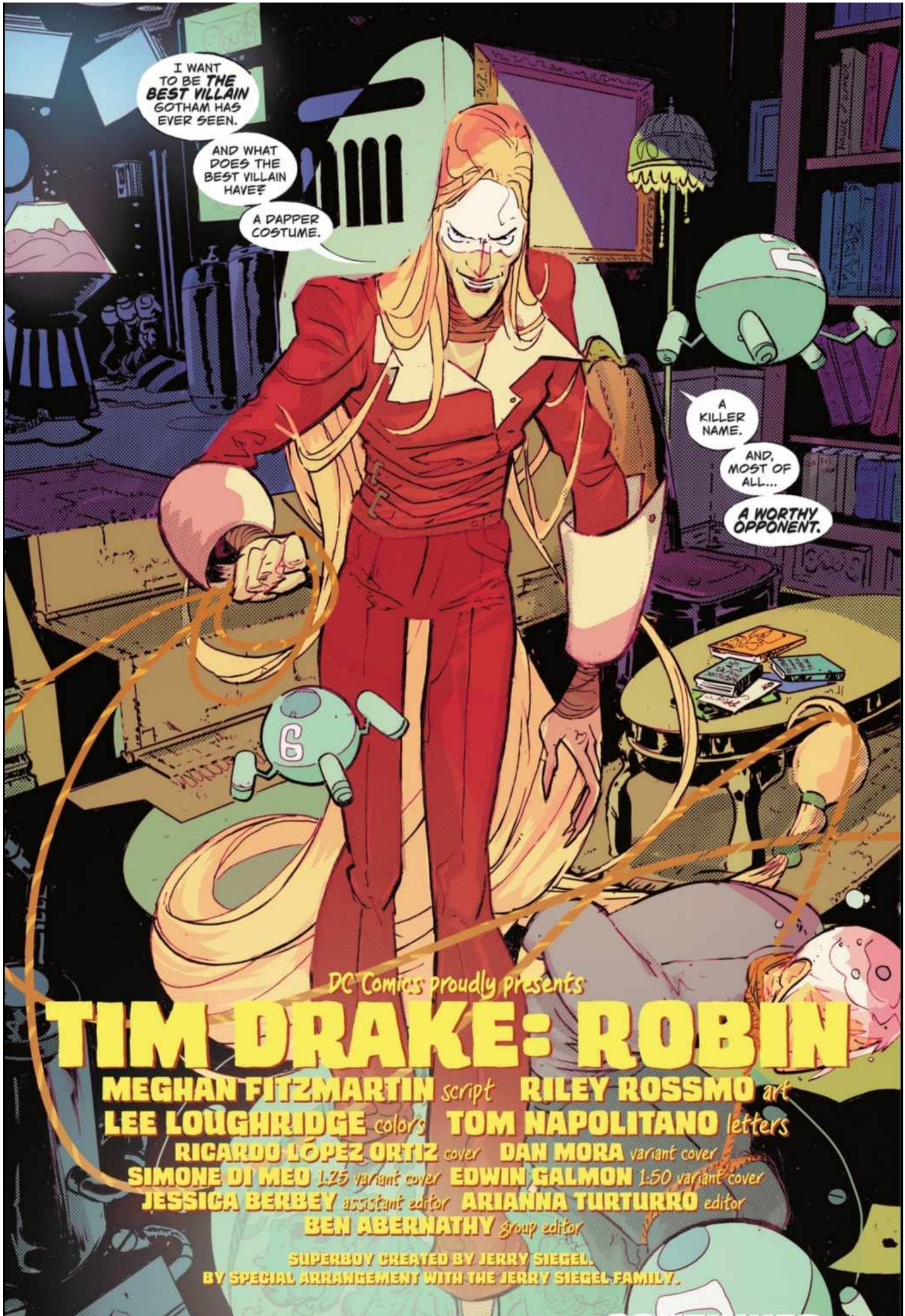
Oh great. One of these apparitions again.
THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A GOLDFISH.
IT'S A FLOATING SHARK WITH GIANT TEETH!
WE FOUGHT ONE OF THESE BEFORE. REMEMBER? GO FIND THE WHITE DISK.
I'LL DEAL WITH THE GOLDFISH!
ROBIN...
NO WHITE DISK!

THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE. THE APPARITIONS NEED THE DISK TO BE ABLE TO APPEAR.
UNLESS...
Shink
THIS IS GONNA SOUND WILD...
...BUT TRUST ME ON THIS.
Based on the trajectory, plus the speed at which the apparition is thrashing its head--
--I mean, these things haven't been corporeal before.
PAFF
PAFF
PAFF
HOLD IT DOWN!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
But if we're in the story I *think* we are...


"Goldfish."
By Raymond Chandler.
I wondered when we'd get to a Raymond Chandler story.
A man steals pearls and *hides* them.
In a goldfish.
There it is.
The white disk.
BATGIRL! I CAN'T HOLD IT DOWN!
WAIT.

SEE? HE'S FINE.
Pearls. The goldfish exploded into pearls.
Clever.
And a clue.
ROBIN?
Not my best landing.
The goldfish. The apparitions.
They're all shifting. Changing.
ARE YOU OKAY?
BUZZ BUZZ BUZZ
OOOF.
Transforming.
ARE YOU RINGING?
BUZZ BUZZ
BERNARD

BERNARD? PLEASE TELL ME YOU MADE IT HOME.
SORRY, ROBIN. BERNARD CAN'T COME TO THE PHONE RIGHT NOW.
HE'S SAFE AND SNUG AS A BUG IN A RUG.
AND JUST AS STUCK, TOO.
YOU!
LET HIM GO.
I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU WANT, YOU GOON.
OH NO NO NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I WANT.

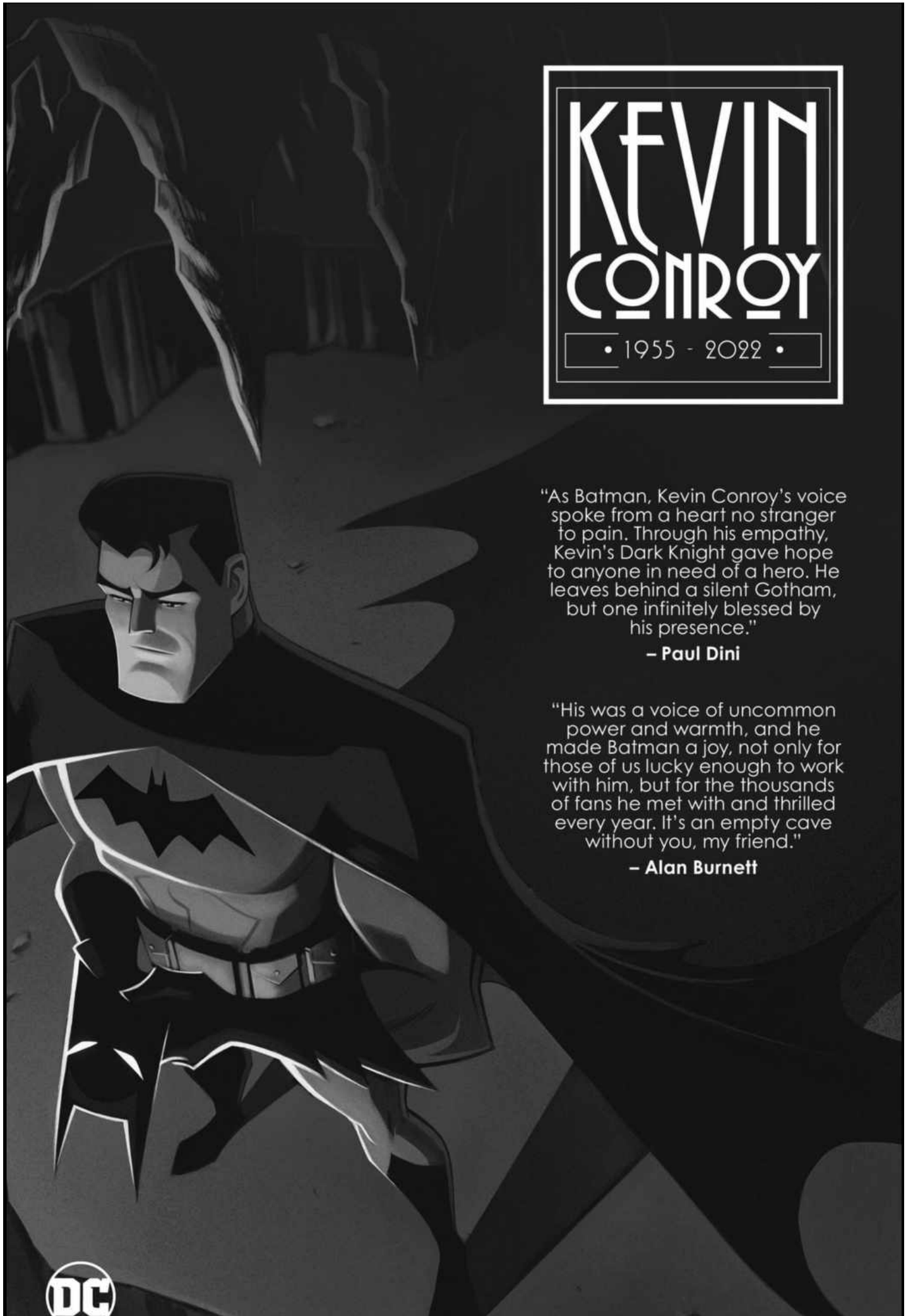

I WANT TO BE THE BEST VILLAIN GOTHAM HAS EVER SEEN.
AND WHAT DOES THE BEST VILLAIN HAVE?
A DAPPER COSTUME.
A KILLER NAME.
AND, MOST OF ALL...
A WORTHY OPPONENT.

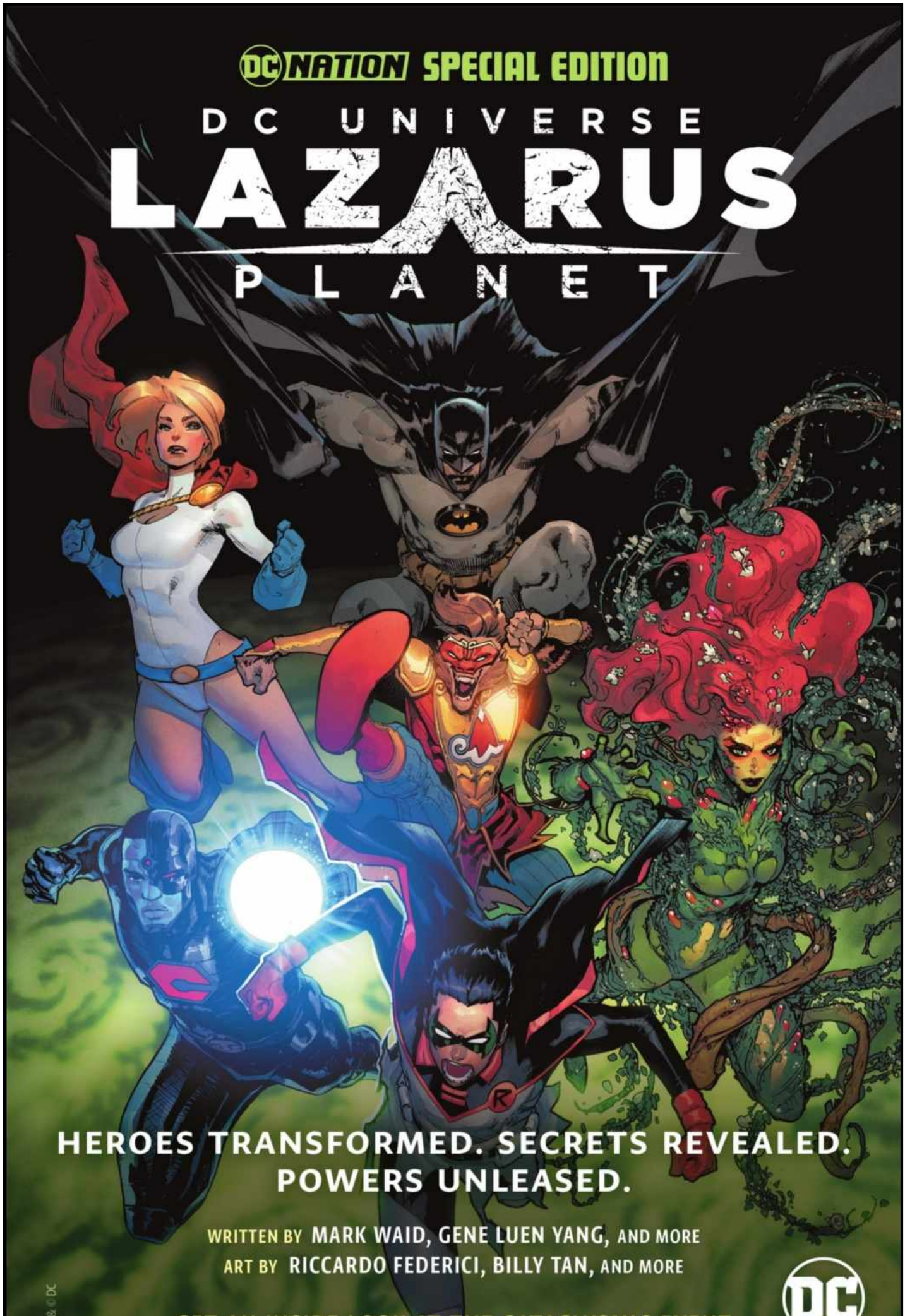
DC Comics proudly presents

TIM DRAKE: ROBIN

MEGHAN FITZMARTIN script RILEY ROSSMO art
LEE LOUGHRIDGE colors TOM NAPOLITANO letters
RICARDO LÓPEZ ORTIZ cover DAN MORA variant cover
SIMONE DI MEO 1:25 variant cover EDWIN GALMON 1:50 variant cover
JESSICA BERBEY assistant editor ARIANNA TURTURRO editor
BEN ABERNATHY group editor

SUPERBOY CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.


KEVIN
CONROY
• 1955 - 2022 •
"As Batman, Kevin Conroy's voice spoke from a heart no stranger to pain. Through his empathy, Kevin's Dark Knight gave hope to anyone in need of a hero. He leaves behind a silent Gotham, but one infinitely blessed by his presence."
– Paul Dini
"His was a voice of uncommon power and warmth, and he made Batman a joy, not only for those of us lucky enough to work with him, but for the thousands of fans he met with and thrilled every year. It's an empty cave without you, my friend."
– Alan Burnett
DC


DC NATION SPECIAL EDITION
DC UNIVERSE
LAZARUS
PLANET
HEROES TRANSFORMED. SECRETS REVEALED.
POWERS UNLEASED.
WRITTEN BY MARK WAID, GENE LUEN YANG, AND MORE
ART BY RICCARDO FEDERICI, BILLY TAN, AND MORE

"NEW HEROES WILL BE BORN AND EXISTING HEROES' POWERS WILL BE CHANGED FOREVER."

In the climax of December's *Batman vs. Robin* #4, a Lazarus Volcano erupts, spewing dangerous and transformative chemicals into Earth's atmosphere.

"That much magic can't be contained—so when it erupts it spews out Lazarus Resin and creates a violent 'rainstorm' that covers the world," explains Mark Waid, the superstar writer and architect of the DC Universe: Lazarus Planet event.

Waid has been no stranger to the DC Universe this past year, penning the bestselling series *Batman/Superman: World's Finest* and *Batman vs. Robin*, which set the stage for this event, beginning in January's *Lazarus Planet: Alpha* #1.

"In *Batman/Superman: World's Finest*, we introduced the Devil Nezha, an ancient evil that could be contained only within the tomb on a remote island," Waid says. "Once our heroes sealed him inside, we sprung the surprise reveal—the tomb is on Lazarus Island. Then in *Batman vs. Robin*, we learn that Mother Soul, Damian's great-grandmother on his al Ghul side, has been searching for Nezha and used Damian to unleash him once more."

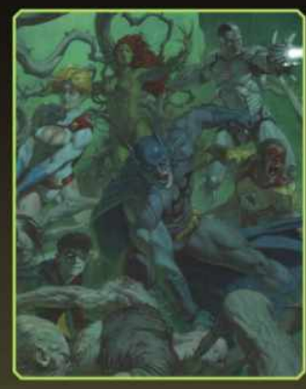
"NEZHA IS A TRICKSTER GOD WHO OFTEN DANCES ON THAT LINE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL."

Helping craft the two-month Lazarus Planet event alongside Waid will be *Monkey Prince* writer Gene Luen Yang. "Traditionally, Nezha is a trickster god who often dances on that line between good and evil," Yang says. "In *Batman/Superman: World's Finest*, Mark brought him into the DC Universe and specifically tied him into elements of the Batman mythos."

The Lazarus Volcano will make its rumblings known throughout the DC Universe in a series of one-shots helmed by all-star talent, including Francis Manapul, Phillip Kennedy Johnson, Leah Williams, Max Dunbar, Clayton Henry, Tim Seeley, and Marguerite Sauvage. Fan-favorite heroes throughout the DC Universe will be heavily invested in uncovering the secrets behind the Lazarus Resin.

"Power Girl is part of the team that tries to free Earth's magical artifacts from the Tower of Fate, where Nezha has imprisoned them," Waid explains. "Poison Ivy, on the other hand, is part of the team exploring one of Ra's al Ghul's mountain headquarters looking for clues to counteract the resin. Ra's was aware of her background as a brilliant biochemist who, like him, is eager to reestablish a working ecosystem before our planet succumbs to global war."

"THE WRITERS AND ARTISTS ARE EMBRACING THAT FREEDOM TO DO SOME OF THE BEST WORK..."



"The writers and artists are embracing that freedom to do some of the best work I've seen in a long time," Waid continues. "Everyone's been incredibly cooperative and willing to toss ideas back and forth to make their own stories even better."

The full scope of the story starts out in *Lazarus Planet: Alpha* and continues in the one-shot tie-ins *Lazarus Planet: Assault on Krypton*, *Lazarus Planet: We Were Once Gods*, *Lazarus Planet: Dark Fate*, *Lazarus Planet: Next Evolution*, and *Lazarus Planet: Legends Reborn*—all leading to the fateful finale in *Lazarus Planet: Omega* and the aftermath in *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods*.

After the events of Lazarus Planet, the gods of the Multiverse decide to take down the heroes they once called champions and the world they've sworn to protect.

The team of gods is led by Earth-0's wizard Shazam, who has been granted a vision from the Lazarus Resin the likes of which he has never seen before.

As if major changes to existing heroes and the introduction of all-new ones weren't enough, Lazarus Planet has a ton of surprises in store for even the most hardcore DC fan. "There's a fusion of Cyborg and Blue Beetle, a key role for Blue Devil, the mightiest bolt of Shazam lightning in history, Swamp Thing vs. Nezha, and a really, really, really ugly turn for Batman," Waid teases.

"Mark's premise for Lazarus Planet is so fun, the rest of us can't help but respond with all the creativity we can muster," Yang says. "Even as a fan, I can't wait to read what everyone's come up with."

LAZARUS RAINS DOWN!

LAZARUS PLANET: ASSAULT ON KRYPTON

Written by: Nicole Maines, C.S. Pacat, Frank Barbiere, and Leah Williams

Art by: Skylar Patridge, Scott Godlewski, Sami Basri, and Marguerite Sauvage

With the world in chaos and Lazarus raining from the skies, the Earth's protectors from Krypton are hit hard, and the heroes will never be the same again.

LAZARUS PLANET: WE WERE ONCE GODS

Written by: Francis Manapul, Dan Watters, Phillip Kennedy Johnson, and Josie Campbell

Art by: Francis Manapul, Max Dunbar, Jack Herbert, and Caitlin Yarsky

The gods are in for some big changes as Lazarus rain beats down upon the Earth. Explore the Lazarus Planet's effect on DC Universe's extraordinary creatures and locations involving the Shazam Family and the Rock of Eternity.

LAZARUS PLANET: LEGENDS REBORN

Written by: Alex Segura, Greg Pak, Alex Paknadel, and Dennis Culver

Art by: Clayton Henry, Minkyu Jung, Christopher Mitten, and Jesús Merino

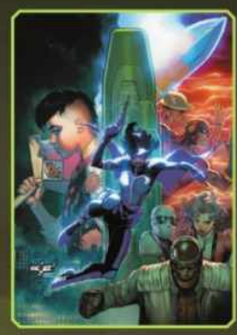
Heroes and villains long forgotten return! Nightwing and the new hero City Boy go on a quest to save Gotham from a surge of fantastical power that will affect the DC Universe forevermore!

LAZARUS PLANET: NEXT EVOLUTION

Written by: Ram V, Brandon T. Snider, Chuck Brown, and Delilah S. Dawson

Art by: Lalit Kumar Sharma, Laura Braga, Alitha Martinez and Mark Morales, and Ro Stein and Ted Brandt

Amazing new powers have been gifted to the freedom fighters of the future. What perils will these villain-vanquishing virtuosos face alongside a brand-new legend, The Vigil?



LAZARUS PLANET: DARK FATE

Written by: Tim Seeley, Dennis Culver, A.L. Kaplan, and Alyssa Wong

Art by: Baldemar Rivas, Chris Burnham, A.L. Kaplan, and Haining

Who are the new villains created by the Lazarus rain and what heroes can stop them? A sinister threat will bring a new chapter to the Doom Patrol while a new danger lurks in the dark corners of the Spirit World for new character Xanthe?

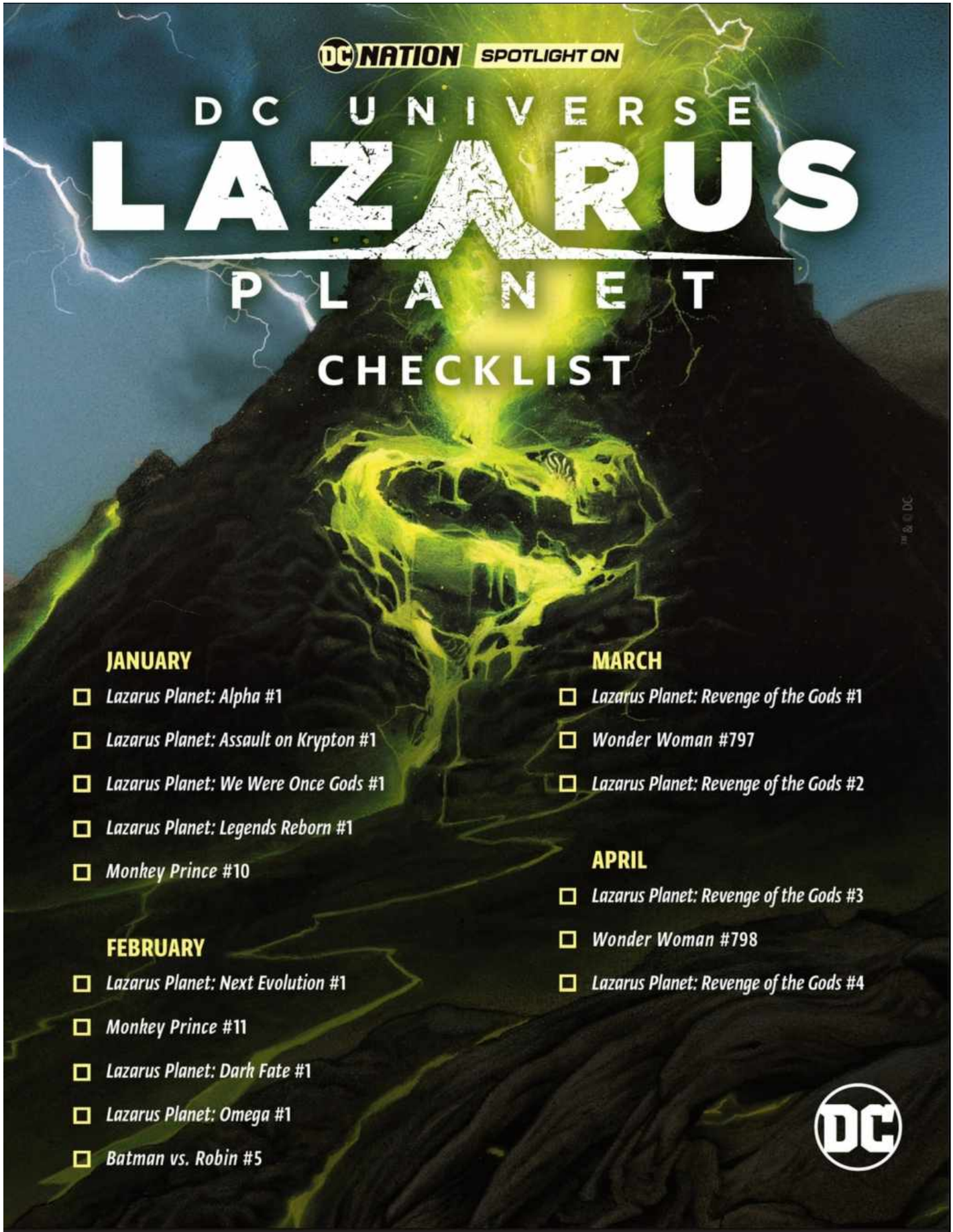
LAZARUS PLANET: REVENGE OF THE GODS

(COVER COMING SOON)

Written by: G. Willow Wilson

Art by: Cian Tormey & Caitlin Yarsky

The wizard Shazam has teamed up with the Quintessence to regain control of their champions. Shazam and Wonder Woman must work together and defeat the gods as they risk losing their powers for good.



JANUARY

- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Alpha #1*
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Assault on Krypton #1*
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: We Were Once Gods #1*
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Legends Reborn #1*
- ☐ *Monkey Prince #10*

FEBRUARY

- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Next Evolution #1*
- ☐ *Monkey Prince #11*
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Dark Fate #1*
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Omega #1*
- ☐ *Batman vs. Robin #5*

MARCH

- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods #1*
- ☐ *Wonder Woman #797*
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods #2*

APRIL

- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods #3*
- ☐ *Wonder Woman #798*
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods #4*

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